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SPORTS | USU Softball

Last year’s Aggies rewrote the record books – this year’s team is better.

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Bringing science to life

An in-depth look at the upcoming Life Sciences building



PHOTO BY Matt Halton
Construction workers excavate dirt and move drainage pipes for the new Life Sciences Building on Friday. The Life Sciences Building is set to open in January 2019.

By Melody Cook
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Groundwork is underway for construction of the new Life Sciences building, which is expected to be operational in spring of 2019. Maura Hagan, Dean of Science at USU, said the building is designed to efficiently meet the needs of

students and faculty. Hagan described the 103,000-square-foot building floor by floor. The building will have five floors, including a basement, Hagan said. The lower three floors will house teaching labs, with research labs on the upper two floors. Walking into the building, there will be a par-

tial but “very open” atrium and a cafe. Hagan said the tentative plan for the cafe menu will be “Cheese and Teas.” The cafe will dish out gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches as well as teas of all kinds. The floor will also contain an auditorium with roughly 300 seats. In addition, there will be a General Biology teaching lab, open lounges and study spaces.

The second floor will have additional study spaces and an active-learning classroom, which will accommodate about 100 students at a time. These active-learning classrooms, Hagan said, allow teachers to configure the space in various formats to aid in group exercises and

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The life of a president

An insider’s look into the life of Ashley Waddoups, USUSA President

By Shelby Stoor
STUDENT LIFE SENIOR WRITER

The end of the 2016-17 school year is quickly approaching and as the month comes to an end, so does Ashley Waddoups’ term as Utah State University Student Association president. Waddoups grew up in Ivins, Utah. While in high school, she participated in debate and track. Growing up, Waddoups had a great love for animals and Disney movies. “I actually didn’t really like living there at first. I was a typical girly-girl who loved Barbies. So when I walked out my door and saw cockroaches and red dirt, I was just horrified,” she said. “But I love it now.” Waddoups believes growing up two blocks away from her grandmother is one thing that has had a huge impact on her life. “She was my greatest mentor my whole life. She taught me to read and to play the piano. She taught me all of these really cool things and she was also really passionate about social justice,” Waddoups said. “We would have really long conversations walking around St. George. One of the biggest things I remember growing up was having her there.” Waddoups said her grandmother’s passion for social justice is where her sense of mercy and love for the underdog comes from. This is what helped lead her to USU and built her into the person she is today. Initially, Waddoups did not want to come to

USU but she could not fight the feeling that she needed to be here. “In the end, something just felt right about going to USU and I felt excited about coming here,” she said. “My parents were kind of upset about it and after the first year I almost did not come back. But I am so grateful I ended up here. I would not have it any other way.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF Ashley Waddoups
Ashley Waddoups, the 2016-17 USUSA President is pictured here with her dog, Chewy.

Waddoups said a part of the reason she feels she was meant to come here is to meet her husband, Josh Nyman. Waddoups said that having Nyman support her is what has kept her going. “He has been the most incredible and supportive person ever. We’ve switched the traditional roles a little,” Waddoups said. “He is the one keeping the apartment clean and cooking me meals. This summer, I’m hoping to return the favor a little since I am never there now.” Waddoups is an English education student with a minor in communications. Along with her duties as USUSA President, Waddoups has also been working to complete her student teaching. Although she has always been very involved at USU, Waddoups said she never felt like becoming USUSA President was a part of her plan. “I was not involved in student government at all in high school. I’ve struggled a lot with self-confidence issues in my life so I never considered it,” she said. Waddoups chose to get involved with USUSA because she saw a need that she believed she could fill. “A lot of the reason I ran for positions before was because I’m very issue driven. By the end of my year as student advocate, I did not feel like I was done. I knew I had unfinished business and wanted to put myself in a position to do the most good,” she said. Carly Thornhill, the president’s cabinet direc-

see “Waddoups” PAGE 5

N&W

NATION AND WORLD

Afghanistan says massive US bomb killed 36 militants

By Amir Shah
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — The biggest non-nuclear bomb ever dropped in combat by the U.S. military killed 36 militants in eastern Afghanistan, officials said Friday, and villagers in the remote, mountainous area described being terrified by the “earsplitting blast.”

The strike using the Massive Ordnance Air Blast bomb, or MOAB, was carried out Thursday morning against an Islamic State group tunnel complex carved in the mountains that Afghan forces have tried to assault repeatedly in recent weeks in fierce fighting in Nangarhar province, Afghan officials said.

U.S. and Afghan forces have been battling the Taliban insurgency for more than 15 years. But the U.S. military brought out the biggest conventional bomb in its arsenal for the first time to hit the Islamic State, which has a far smaller but growing presence in Afghanistan. That apparently reflects President Donald Trump’s vow for a more aggressive campaign against the group.

The bomb — known officially as a GBU-43B but nicknamed the “mother of all bombs” — unleashes 11 tons of explosives. Pentagon video showed the bomb striking a mountain-side overlooking a river valley with a giant blast that overwhelms the landscape and sent up a massive column of black smoke. Agricultural terraces are visible in the footage, but no population centers.

The Afghan Defense Ministry said in a statement that the bomb destroyed several IS caves and ammunition caches.

Gen. Daulat Waziri, a ministry spokesman, said 36 IS fighters were killed, and that the death toll could likely rise. He said Afghan forces were at the tunnel complex assessing the damage.

The Islamic State group’s Aamaq news

agency denied that any of its fighters were killed or wounded, citing a source within the group.

Waziri said the bombing was necessary because the complex was extremely hard to penetrate, with some tunnels as deep as 40 meters (over 130 feet). He called it a “strong position,” with troops attacking it four times without advancing, adding that the complex “was full of mines.”

“This was the right weapon for the right target,” said U.S. Gen. John W. Nicholson, NATO commander in Afghanistan, at a news conference. He added that there were no reports of civilian casualties.

Nicholson said the bomb was intended to eliminate the militants’ sanctuary in southern Nangarhar, “and this weapon was very effective in that use.”

The office of President Ashraf Ghani said there was “close coordination” between the U.S. military and the Afghan government over the operation, and they were careful to prevent any civilian casualties.

But the massive blast still terrified villagers 20 miles away across the border in Pakistan.

Pakistani villagers living near the frontier said the explosion was so loud they thought a bomb had been dropped in their village by U.S. warplanes targeting militants in Pakistan.

“I was sleeping when we heard a loud explosion. It was an earsplitting blast,” said Shah Wali, 46, who lives in the village of Goor Gari, 15 kilometers (9 miles) from the border with Nangarhar. “I jumped from my bed and came out of my home to see what has gone wrong in our village.”

Dozens of other villagers also came out of their homes, Wali said. He later went near the border, where he met with other residents. He said he could see smoke in the sky.

“The whole house was shaking,” said Mufti Khan of Achin district in Nangarhar. “When I



PHOTO BY AP Photo Rahmat Gul
Afghan commando patrols Pandola village near the site of a U.S. bombing in the Achin district of Jalalabad, east of Kabul, Afghanistan, Friday, April 14. U.S. forces in Afghanistan on Thursday struck an Islamic State tunnel complex in eastern Afghanistan with the largest non-nuclear weapon ever used in combat by the U.S. military, Pentagon officials said.

came out of my house, I saw a large fire and the whole area was burning.”

Another Achin resident, Mohammad Hakim, approved of the strike.

“We are very happy, and these kinds of bombs should be used in future as well, so Daesh is rooted out from here,” he said, using the Arabic acronym for the Islamic State group.

“They killed our women, youths and elders, sitting them on mines,” Hakim added. “We also ask the Kabul government to use even stronger weapons against them.”

The U.S. estimates 600-800 IS fighters are in Afghanistan, mostly in Nangarhar. The U.S. has concentrated on fighting them while also supporting Afghan forces against the Taliban.

Trump called Thursday’s operation a “very, very successful mission.”

“I want a hundred times more bombings on this group,” said Hakim Khan, a 50-year-old a resident of Achin.

Inamullah Meyakhil, spokesman for the

central hospital in eastern Nangarhar province, said no dead or wounded had been brought to the facility from the attack.

District Gov. Ismail Shinwari added that there was no civilian property near the location of the airstrike.

The Site Intelligence Group, which tracks extremist organizations, reported Friday on a statement from the Afghan Taliban that condemned the U.S. for its “terrorist” attack.

The statement said it is the responsibility of Afghans, not the U.S., to remove the Islamic State group from the country. The two militant movements are rivals.

The U.S. has more than 8,000 troops in Afghanistan, training local forces and conducting counterterrorism operations. In the past year, they have largely concentrated on thwarting a surge of attacks by the Taliban, who have captured key districts, such as Helmand province, which U.S. and British troops had fought bitterly to return to the government.

North Korean official: Ready for war if Trump wants it

By Eric Talmadge
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — President Donald Trump’s tweets are adding fuel to a “vicious cycle” of tensions on the Korean Peninsula, North Korea’s vice foreign minister told The Associated Press in an exclusive interview Friday. The official added that if the U.S. shows any sign of “reckless” military aggression, Pyongyang is ready to launch a pre-emptive strike of its own.

Vice Minister Han Song Ryol said Pyongyang has determined the Trump administration is “more vicious and more aggressive” than that of Barack Obama. He added that North Korea will keep building up its nuclear arsenal in “quality and quantity” and said Pyongyang is ready to go to war if that’s what Trump wants.

Tensions between Pyongyang and Washington go back to President Harry Truman and the 1950-53 Korean War, which ended in an armistice, not a peace treaty. But the heat has been rising rapidly since Trump took office in January.

This year’s joint war games between the U.S. and South Korean militaries are the biggest so far. The USS Carl Vinson aircraft carrier has been diverted back to the waters off Korea after heading for Australia, and U.S. satellite imagery suggests the North could conduct another underground nuclear test at any time. Pyongyang recently tested a ballistic missile and claims it is close to perfecting an intercontinental ballistic missile and nuclear warhead that could attack the U.S. mainland.

Many experts believe that at its current pace of testing, North Korea could reach that potentially game-changing milestone within a few years — under Trump’s watch as presi-

dent. Despite reports that Washington is considering military action if the North goes ahead with another nuclear test, Han did not rule out the possibility of a test in the near future.

“That is something that our headquarters decides,” he said during the 40-minute interview in Pyongyang, which is now gearing up for a major holiday — and possibly a big military parade — on Saturday. “At a time and at a place where the headquarters deems necessary, it will take place.”

The North conducted two such tests last year alone. The first was of what it claims to have been a hydrogen bomb and the second was its most powerful ever. Expectations are high the North may put its newest missiles on display during Saturday’s parade.

The annual U.S.-South Korea military exercises have consistently infuriated the North, which views them as rehearsals for an

invasion. Washington and Seoul deny that, but reports that exercises have included “decapitation strikes” aimed at the North’s leadership have fanned Pyongyang’s anger.

Han said Trump’s tweets have also added fuel to the flames.

Trump posted a tweet Tuesday in which he said the North is “looking for trouble” and reiterated his call for more pressure from Beijing, North Korea’s economic lifeline, to clamp down on trade and strengthen its enforcement of U.N. sanctions to persuade Pyongyang to denuclearize.

Trump has threatened that if Beijing isn’t willing to do more to squeeze the North, the U.S. might take the matter into its own hands.

“Trump is always making provocations with his aggressive words,” Han said. “It’s not the DPRK but the U.S. and Trump that makes

see “North Korea” PAGE 7



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“Life Science Building” FROM PAGE 1

hands-on learning. The second floor will also have additional teaching labs and a computer lab. Hagan said the science department is working with the Association for Information Systems, or AIS, which is a student-led association that deals with research systems. The AIS is working to configure the computer lab into an interactive videoconferencing (IVC) lab at night for students who take USU classes from remote locations. Courses taught in IVC classrooms cater to students taking the course remotely, as well as students who attend in person. The computer lab is strategically placed so that those collecting data in a research lab can easily transition to a computer lab analyze their data, Hagan said.

Hagan also said there will also be Geographical Information Systems (GIS) labs on the second floor. In these labs, scientists can tie their data to particular geographic locations. The GIS labs will be separated into two parts by a glass partition. This partition can be opened to create one large classroom or closed to make two classrooms.

The third floor will house faculty offices, graduate student workspaces and research labs. The research labs will be designated for faculty and their student assistants, Hagan said. Faculty will not have individual labs. Rather, the labs will be suites. Hagan said researchers sharing a suite may also share some equipment, as their projects may require similar tools. This layout, Hagan said, will foster collaboration, economize spaces and resources, as well as prevent cross-contamination of specimens.

While there will be some new equipment in these labs such as fume hoods and sinks, Hagan said that much of the equipment will be moved from the older science buildings, such as the Biology and Natural Resources building (BNR), into the Life Sciences building. “We can’t afford everything new,” Hagan said.

The fourth floor will house additional research labs and areas designated to graduate research

assistants.

The basement will contain microbiology teaching labs, a genetics lab and another computer lab. Hagan said the landscapers are envisioning the basement to be garden-level so those working in the microbiology lab can enjoy sunlight streaming in.

Labs across campus are having to squeeze in thirty students at once, although the optimal capacity is twenty-four students. This makes it difficult for teaching assistants to address the needs of each student, Hagan said. As the BNR only has two teaching labs, the Life Sciences building will double the number of teaching labs on campus. Hagan believes the features of the Life Sciences building will allow for more robust research than the BNR currently provides.

“In order to give our students 21st-century training, we need a 21st-century facility that we can learn in, and similarly for our faculty,” Hagan said.

Bonnie Waring, an assistant professor in the biology department, said she is impressed with the architects of the building and how closely they are working with the faculty.

“I work in the BNR. It’s a great building, but this one will really be customized to the sort of modern research that we do now,” Waring said. She also said the teaching labs are designed for easy transition between lecture and lab.

Waring said she thinks students will benefit from the “state-of-the-art” teaching labs and will have “the best possible experience” when taking lab-based courses. Waring also said that since USU has one of the highest rates of undergraduate research participation in the nation, these undergraduate researchers will greatly benefit from the new labs.

Although the facility will be called the “Life Sciences Building,” Hagan said that the facility will be “exciting” for all majors.

“Everyone has to take a science class of some kind in order to complete their degree, so we serve a lot of students,” Hagan said. “I’m thinking that having classes in the new, beautifully

equipped building will make our classes even more popular.” Hagan expects that the auditorium as well as the active-learning classroom will be open for other colleges and departments to use, though she hopes the science department will have priority in room assignment.

Joseph Day, the 2016-2017 science senator, said he is excited about the building’s formal study rooms. He said these should be available for use by any major and will operate similarly to the library and business building’s study rooms. Day also invited students to view the building plans in the science department lounge, located in room 245 of the Eccles Science Learning Center (ESLC).

The new facility will be large, but it won’t be able to hold all science department faculty. Hagan said the science department has had to make tough decisions concerning which faculty will move out of the BNR and into the Life Sciences building. Hagan said Alan Savitzky, the biology department head, primarily made these decisions. Hagan said since Savitzky is a biologist and she is a physicist, Savitzky knows better about which researchers will work well together and which research projects will be symbiotic.

Hagan said the faculty have been “collegial” in these decisions. She said the faculty have held a series of “lab workshops” to discuss these decisions and talk about the design of the labs, as well as the needed equipment.

“I’m hoping that there won’t be any hard feelings for those who don’t get to move,” Hagan said.

However, Hagan thinks all science faculty should have the opportunity to work in “state-of-the-art” facilities such as the Life Sciences building. For this reason, she hopes the university will approve renovation of the BNR.

Originally, the College of Science approached the university legislature with a proposal that combined the BNR renovation and the Life Sciences building construction, Hagan said. Because of the cost, President Albrecht suggested they split the projects and focus first on the Life

Sciences building, so faculty could move into the new building in preparation for BNR renovation at a later date. Hagan said the BNR renovation proposal was denied this year, but she is hopeful that the legislature will reconsider once the Life Sciences building is complete.

The BNR renovation would be both interior and exterior in order to bring the building up to code.

“We would really do the kind of work that’s sort of behind the walls,” Hagan said. “It is really important for that building to last another fifty years because if we’re going to invest in a remodel, we want to do something that’s going to last for a really long time.”

As for the current construction, Hagan said the utility work will halt before May 6 for graduation, so graduates can use the walkway from the traditional promenade and will not have to walk through the University Inn maintenance lot.

“We’re going to be good citizens and make sure of that. The construction company has just been a pleasure to work with,” Hagan said.

Although ground has already been broken at the site in order to prepare waterlines, a ceremonial groundbreaking will take place on April 25 at 1 p.m. Several dignitaries will speak at the ceremony, including Utah senator Lyle Hilliard and USU president Noelle Cockett. Hagan said up-to-date renderings of the project will be available to view and there will be Aggie Ice cream. Hagan is expecting many members of the faculty and several students to “break ground.”

“We’ll have waves of people putting the shovel into the dirt just for the fun of it!” Hagan said.

Hagan encouraged anyone who is interested in the new building to attend the groundbreaking ceremony. Live video coverage of the construction is available to view on USU’s website.

— melodyj300@gmail.com
@melodyj300

Spring 2017 3D Art Walk!

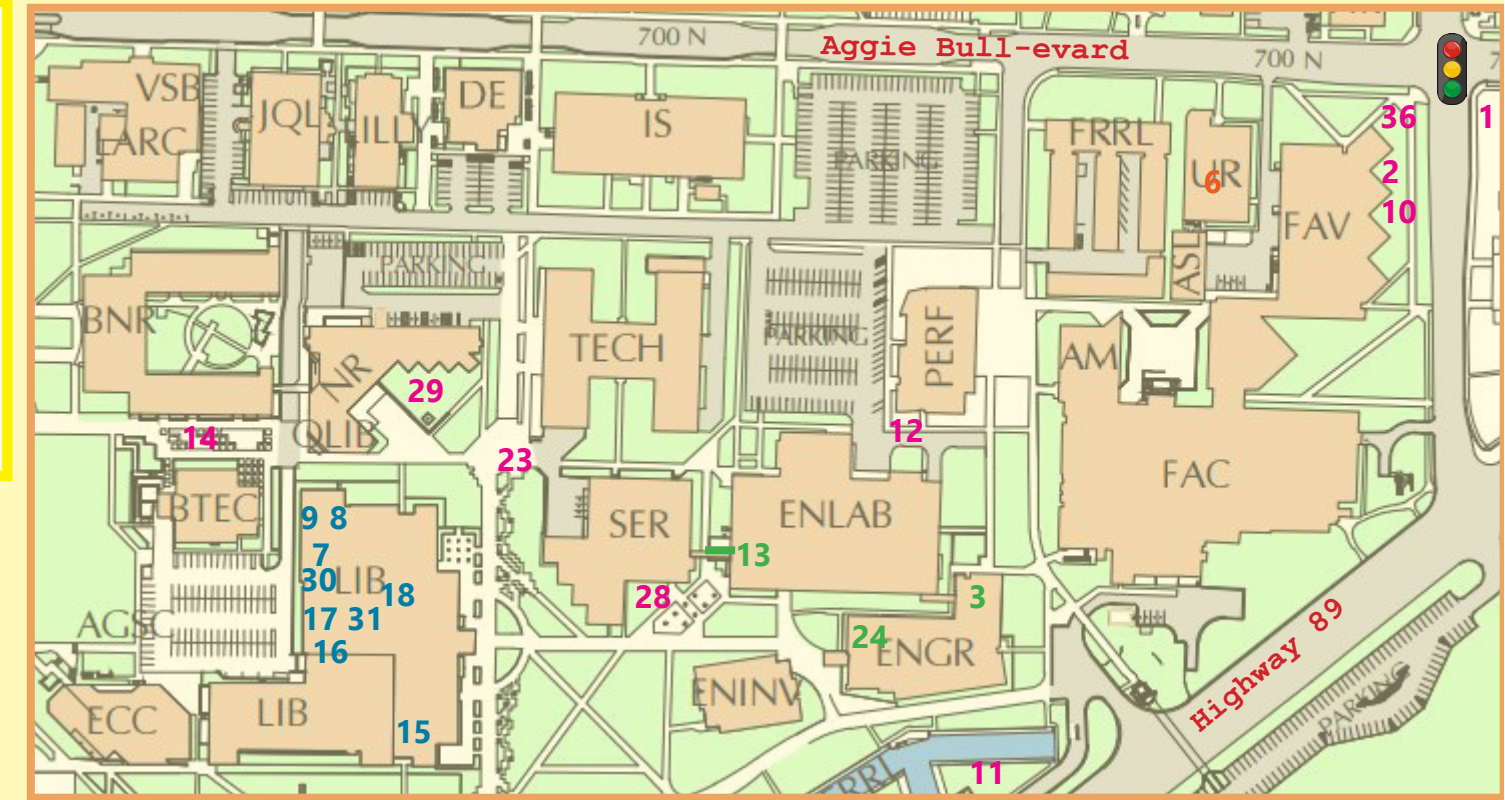
Take the tour through campus and see the installations by freshman art students in this unique annual exhibition. Then go to **art.usu.edu** to cast your vote for the best 3D installation!

- Library:
- 7-Stressed Face
 - 8-Staircase People (3rd floor)
 - 9-Pom Pom in Uniform (3rd floor)
 - 15-Florescent Chevrons (1st floor)
 - 17-Drinking Fountains (1-4 floor)
 - 18-Underwater Mosaic (2nd floor)
 - 16-Flame (2nd floor)
 - 31-Book of Aggie (Staircase)
 - 30-Northern Lights (Elevator)

- Engineering:
- 24-Circuit Tiles
 - 3-Fish Tank
 - 13-Light Spectrum

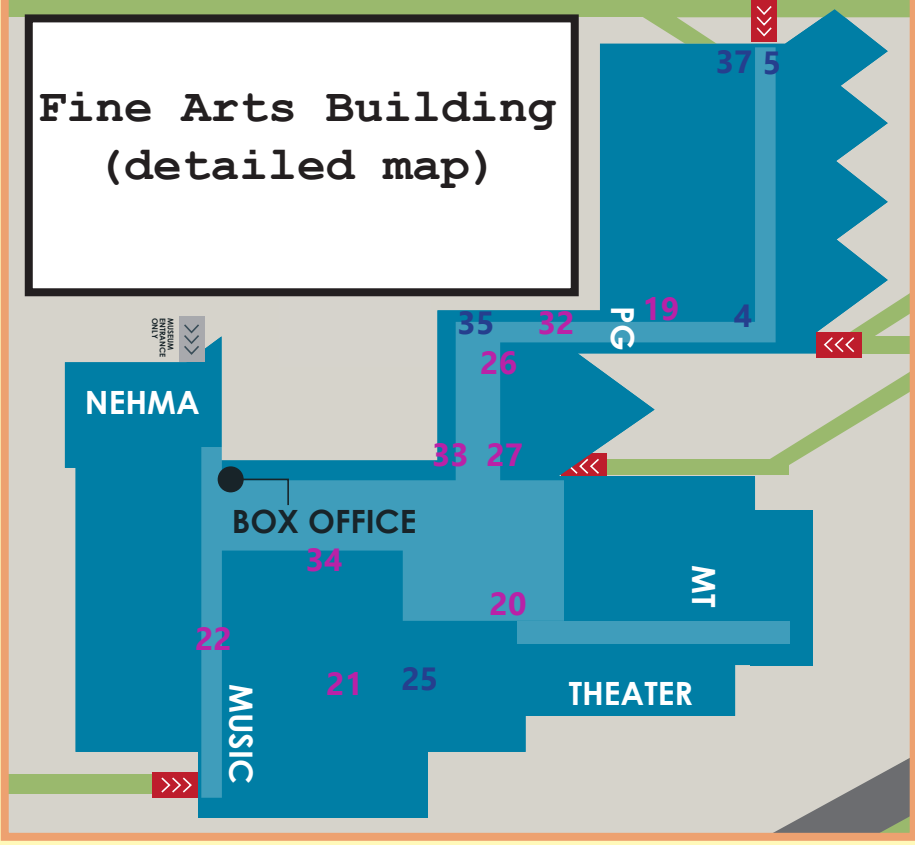
- University Reserve:
- 6-Continental Divide

- Outdoors:
- 29-Mirror Schroned
 - 23-Aggie Value
 - 28-Orange Trees
 - 12-Mirage
 - 11-Spider Webs
 - 2-Primary String Colors
 - 1-Spiral Branches
 - 36-Tesseract
 - 10-Growth
 - 14-Escaped Experiment



- Fine Arts Building (First Floor)
- 19-Bathroom People
 - 32-Lily Pads
 - 26-Puzzle Rainbow
 - 33-Space Within Our Minds
 - 27-Constellation
 - 34-New Beginnings
 - 20-Spiral Hall
 - 21-Creating Color
 - 22-CAN-CAN'T
- Fine Arts Building (Second Floor)
- 5-Dorm Room
 - 37-Telephone Game
 - 4-Water Flow
 - 35-Rusty Patched Bumblebees
 - 25-Space

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STUDENT LIFE



Encroaching on Sustainability: A Play in One Act

By Adrian Thomson
USU SUSTAINABILITY ESSAY CONTEST WINNER

Adrian Thomson is a sophomore majoring in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing. He strives to become an author of young adult science fiction, action adventure and fantasy literature, a goal he has pushed toward all his life. Adrian enjoys imagining alien and mythological worlds, drawing creatures to populate them, and creating interesting characters to bring them to life.

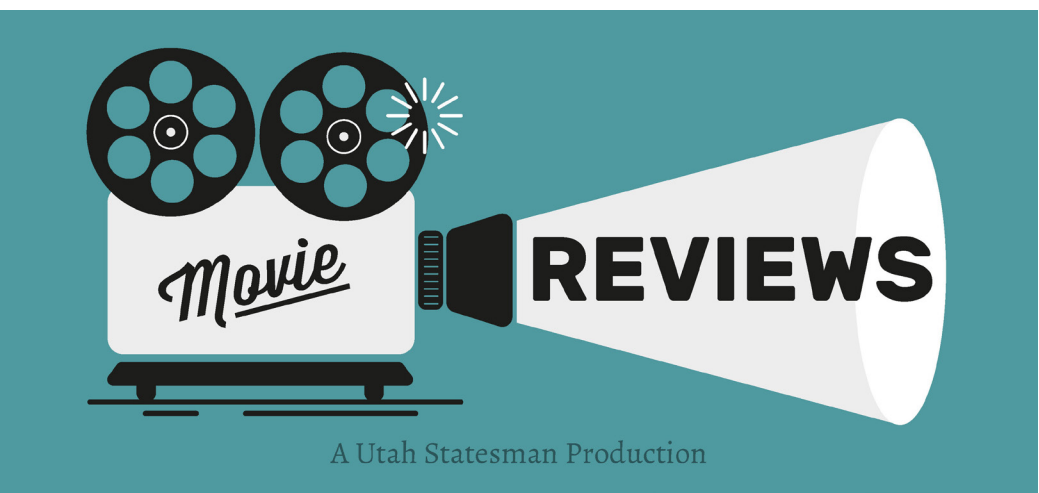
Act 1
(An alleyway between two on-campus housing centers at a university. The sun is about to set. Between the buildings, a large plastic cockroach sits on the ground at approximately center stage. KEITH and JOEY enter from stage right, chatting.)
JOEY
(aggravated)
I don't know man, the team's new hockey mascot really sucks. I mean, when you think hockey, do you immediately say to yourself "Let's go Mosquitoes?"

KEITH
(shrugs)
No, not really. I guess they'll drain the competition, huh? (laughs and slaps his knee for good measure)
JOEY
(sighs and shakes his head)
Would you believe that that's the actual theme they're going with? (exasperated noise) They told me if I couldn't think up a better name by Friday, it's gonna be official.
Geez, that really sucks. (stifles a laugh) (does not register the joke)
KEITH JOEY
Yeah. The thing I don't get the most is— (looks down and notices cockroach on the ground) EYHW! (he jumps back, they both stop and stand at either side of it) Oh, man! Look at the size of that mother!
KEITH
Yikes! It's GIANT, biggest I've ever seen. It looks too fat to walk. In fact . . . (he bends over and examines it, much to JOEY's disgust) it's packin'.
JOEY
(confused) Packin'?

KEITH
Yeah, eggs. See the egg case at the back? She's loaded. There could be 'round fifty eggs in there.
JOEY
(disgusted)
Really?
(gets a mischievous look on his face) Well, they're gonna need fifty-one open spots in the obituary pages tomorrow.
(raises foot very high in the air above the cockroach)
KEITH
Woah, woah! (lunges and grabs JOEY's boot, lifting it up and spinning him backwards onto the ground)
JOEY
(gets to his feet, grunting)
What the actual heck, brah? Are you some type of mental case?
KEITH
Dude, don't you realize how important cockroaches are for the environment? Haven't you heard of all the fascinating ways they give back to nature?
JOEY
Do I look like a grasshopper groupie? I don't stay up late reading nature mags like you. I'm into different types of mags.
(laughs to himself, then stops) You know, hockey mags.
KEITH
(sighs)
Joey, this is serious.
(reaches out and touches his shoulder, then, in an exaggerated motion, turns his head directly toward the audience. As he speaks JOEY continually glances at him, confused as to what he is looking at)
Sustainability is a very important role that everyone needs to practice, especially on a college campus.
(grabs JOEY's hand suddenly)
We must all give back to the environment by renewing our resources; incorporating what we use back into the soil to create more.

(lets go of JOEY and turns back to him)
The cockroach is a big part of that process, bro.
JOEY
Uh, yeah, but if I smash this thing it's dead, body'll fertilize the dirt and crap and grow a tree, right? Same thing.
(shakes his head)
Whatever dude. Here, let me explain it for ya.
SONG AND DANCE NUMBER:
KEITH
Long before the dinosaurs all dropped dead,
And long after the early humans first invented bread,
The good cockroach was hard at work, doing what it she does best,
Munching through the leaf litter better than all the rest,
Doing things that no one else would think to do again,
Including the crucial environment task of converting nitrogen!
(turns to JOEY, speaking) When I say converting you say nitrogen, alright?
(unwilling, speaking) Uh . . . yeah, sure.
KEITH
Converting! (whispers) Converting.
JOEY
Nitrogen.
KEITH
(whispers) Ni-tro-gen. (goes into flying leap in his dance) Converting! (whispers) Converting.
JOEY
Nitrogen. (whispers) Ni-tro-gen.
KEITH
Oh, when you see a steaming pile of discarded waste,
Piling in the street and staring you in the face,
Do you expect that anything would actually want to eat
Old plant matter, garbage too, what once may-be was meat? But the cockroach sees it all, stuff that you'd find really gross, And takes it upon herself to digest lignocellulose.
Digest! (whispers) Digest.

see "One Act" PAGE 7



HBO'S BIG LITTLE LIES

By Keith Ariaz
STUDENT LIFE WRITER

Weeks ago, HBO premiered the first of its seven episode mini-series "Big Little Lies."
By the end of the episode, I was hooked and eagerly waited each week for the next episode to premiere. On April 2, the show came to an end and I finally was able to write this review, which I held off on because I wanted to wait until it ended on the off chance it was one of those shows which slowly went downhill as it pro-

gressed. I'm not going to lie though, not only did it manage to keep its flame going but it also managed to get brighter and by the end it delivered an explosive finale which left us as an audience not only wanting more, but equally satisfied as well.
Based on the novel of the same name, "Big Little Lies" tells the story of a child who is being abused at school. Told through flashbacks, we are quickly introduced to five different women; Madeline (Reese Witherspoon), Celeste (Nicole Kidman), Jane (Shailene Woodley), Renata (Laura Dern) and Bonnie (Zoe Kravitz). As each

of these women confront one another and try to figure out who the bully is that is putting their children in harm's way, each of their secrets begin to spill out before coming down to a confrontation that ends with a murder taking place during a school fundraiser.
"Big Little Lies" is the kind of show that makes you think. It sheds light on topics that are often left in the dark and glazed over as if they aren't really happening. Throw in the fact that it's a show being led by five women taking center stage, this show feels extremely necessary, especially in the time we're currently living in. With as many accomplishments that the show achieves, it's worth noting that it still manages to fall short and isn't quite the perfection it almost was.
For starters, throughout the entire series we are plagued with a number of flashbacks, flash-forwards and fantasy sequences that make the timeline of the show extremely confusing. The flash-forwards don't hurt as much, but it's really hard to tell the difference between a flashback and a fantasy sequence within this show and it often ends up being a huge distraction. I'd imagine that if you watched the series straight through they might make a bit more sense but not by much. This is most prevalent with Jane's storyline as she is dealing with a secret which

she's spent most of her adult life running from. we're given glimpses here and there, but for the most part it's kept in the dark and are left to Jane and her imagination and it's hard to tell what really happened and what didn't.
Another hit this show takes is its choppy editing which might be the reason the timeline gets confusing. For the most part, when it's dealing with the present the editing is fine. It isn't until we start jumping back and forth and spinning in fantasy-land that it gets wish-washed. This is also what I felt hurt the finale in the very end. The entire episode does an excellent job building up the tension that leads to the murder and when the moment finally arrives, I was holding my breath in anticipation. Sadly, when the murder happens it cuts back and forth between the attack and waves crashing in the ocean and any tension that I had leading up to this moment quickly went away. I felt almost cheated as I wasn't able to clearly watch the events that I'd been waiting for since episode one.
Taking away what I just mentioned, everything else within this show is simply storytelling at its finest and reminds us just how good television can be. As I said, this is a show with five female leads who get more screen time than any of their

see "Lies" PAGE 7



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EXCELLENCE



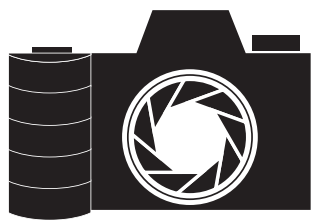
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PHOTOGRAPHER

SPOTLIGHT



“ I like this photo because it shows how the people living in tourist areas still have to go about their normal day, including hanging their underwear to dry over tourist’s heads. ”

— Chantelle McCall, Statsman Photogrpaher

“Waddoups” FROM PAGE 1

tor, said she has found a mentor and friend in Waddoups. Thornhill has enjoyed getting to help “make Ashley cool.”

“We had an initiative called #makeAshley-cool2016 because most of her pop culture references are from the early 2000s. She tried really hard and we even made her an Instagram,” Thornhill said. “If you ask me, I’d say Ashley is officially cool. It was just fun things like that as well as her mindset that I will miss.”

Thornhill believes that Waddoups made a great USUSA President because she knows how to set expectations and delegate tasks.

“With president’s cabinet, she gave each of the directors a very clear initiative or task to accomplish during the semester, she set out how she imagined it, then let us with our committees plan everything. She would check in and give her opinion, but she completely trusted us to do what was needed,” Thornhill said. “It was a great way of organizing her cabinet because it was effective and we were able to get so much done.”

Freshman Josh Davis has had the opportunity to get to know Waddoups through working with the president’s cabinet.

“She works harder than she needs to and it is impressive. This is not a position she has ever taken lightly. She is just an impressive person,” Davis said.

Davis has enjoyed getting to work with Waddoups and see her fulfill the promises she made

to students when running for USUSA President.

“I love seeing how passionate she is about the things on her platform. A lot of people have been student body president and a lot of their promises do not get done,” he said. “A lot of those things come up with Ashley, but she powers through it. She has made sure to come through on those promises which I think is really honorable.”

Executive council administrative assistant Hadley Burton has enjoyed the opportunity she has had to work with Waddoups over the last year.

“It has been fun because we are very different in our personalities. She is so creative and has great ideas and I get to help put those ideas to action,” Burton said. “She is very passionate about everything she does and it has been great to watch that passion turn into action this year. She has done a great job.”

Burton said she believes Waddoups has done a great job of adapting and attempting to meet students’ needs. Burton will miss getting to work so closely with Waddoups and the difference that she has made.

“It has been fun to watch her succeed in things and gracefully fail. She has always failed forward. She learns from her failures and applies it to different places. She has been a huge role model for me in how to accomplish things and stay humble about it and learn from my failures,” she said.

Student alumni vice president Rachael Fresh believes Waddoups’ largest strength is her ability to look at issues from different perspectives.

“She is able to see things differently than other members of the council. She looks at it from all areas so that she can see how it will affect others. I think that is one of the strongest things you can have in a leader,” Fresh said. “It makes



PHOTO BY Megan Neilson
Ashley talks to Statesman reporters in her office during an interview in April 2017.

us stronger because we look at it from all sides of the story. Her perspective is different and she is able to consider how others would take things.”

Fresh has enjoyed working with Waddoups because of her willingness to take constructive criticism and her humble spirit.

“She is very willing to make changes to make a difference at the school. She does not have an ego. She did not drop the ball on things that USUSA had already worked on. She put her own spin on it and made it better,” she said.

Fresh said she is going to miss teasing Waddoups with the rest of the executive council at their weekly meetings.

“It’s like she is our sister. We want to watch her grow and succeed, but we also love giving her crap sometimes. I am also going to miss learning from her,” she said. “She is so smart and I don’t know how she juggles everything she does. I will miss our talks and walking into her office to talk about life. I’m just really going to miss the little things.”

Waddoups said she will never forget the lessons she has learned while serving as the USUSA president.

“This job has been such an incredible experience for me. There have been some frustrating moments and tears shed at certain points. Par-

tially, I chose to run because I knew how much I would grow but also I had such a vision for what I wanted to do and was ready to hit the ground running,” she said.

Waddoups is now planning to attend Brigham Young University Law School since she is graduating from USU. In the future, Waddoups hopes to continue being involved in the political scene and have her own family. She also hopes to continue to make a difference in the world around her.

“I have been able to see the difference that running for office has had in my life and in the lives of others as well. That’s not me trying to be presumptuous because if anything, you realize how pathetic and weak you are on your own,” Waddoups said. “It’s really hard, but there is a lot of power in political office. I feel like we need more people to run for office so that we get the best people. Too many intelligent and great people shy away from running for office because of the stigma.”

— shelbstoor11@aggiemail.usu.edu
@shelbstoor11



PHOTOS COURTESY OF Ashley Waddoups
(From left to right) Ashley pictured with her husand, Jake Nyman. Ashley as a toddler.

Above and beyond

Utah State softball eclipses last year's win total with big weekend in Ft. Collins

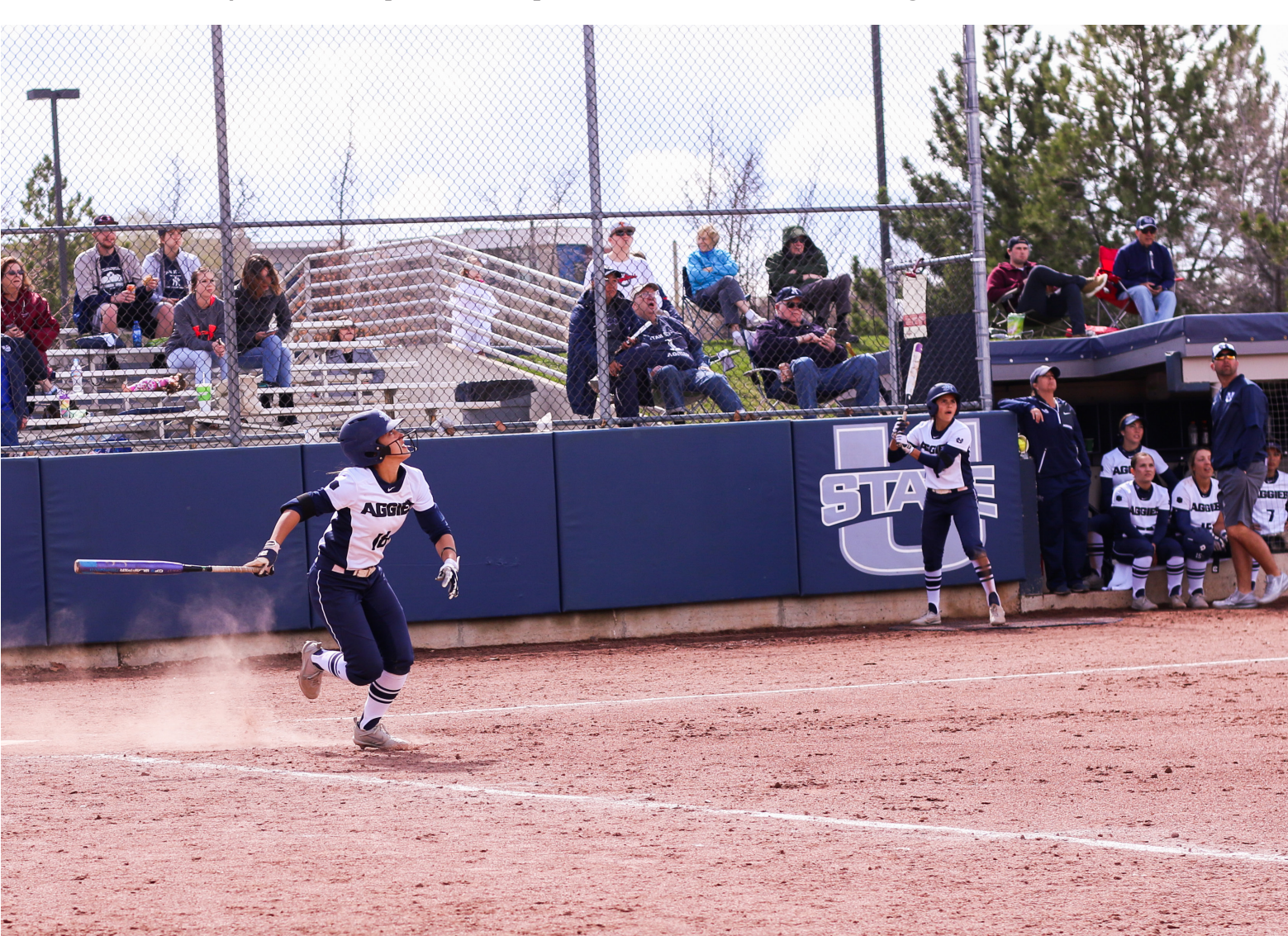


PHOTO BY Megan Nielsen

Utah State softball earned a series win over Colorado State to surpass its 2015-16 win total of 26-25. The Aggies are currently 27-10 with 12 games to play.

By Logan Jones
SPORTS CONTENT MANAGER

Last year, Utah State softball put up a more historic season than its barely-above-.500 record would suggest, boasting the single greatest offensive output in program history. That squad rewrote the record books for most runs scored, home runs, RBIs, on base percentage and a fistful of other batting records that hadn't been touched in 20 years.

This team is better.

The Aggies' statistically brilliant season crossed an important mile marker Friday, as Utah State won its 27th game of the year in a 4-0 shutout over Colorado State. The win surpassed last year's win total (26-25), guaranteeing the Aggies improvement over their 2015-16 campaign with 12 games still to play. Despite redefining success for themselves just one year ago, Aggie softball is on pace for yet another record-smashing finish.

Senior Victoria Saucedo, key contributor to last year's team-wide success at the plate,

joins freshman Riley Plogger and fellow senior Sarina Jaramillo in the conference's 20 best batting averages — Jaramillo (no. 8) is a threat to finish the year batting above .400. Together the Aggies have racked up 37 home runs in a race to upend last year's nice round all-time best mark — 50.

Were the season to end today, the 2017 Aggies would own new records in team batting average (.327), on base percentage (.384) and slug percentage (.513). Two of those records belong to the 2016 team, but 1996's team batting average (.310) remained untouched for over two decades.

Now, that record stands in the way of a relentlessly fun bunch of Aggies unwilling to stop their hot streak for more than a game or two. The 2017 crew is fearless, earning Utah State a season series win against Fresno for the first time since any of them had been born, blasting past an entire mess of 5- and 6-win teams to 10 conference wins and firm hold on first place in the Mountain West.

Friday against Colorado State was the quint-

essential Aggie game, a whole season in seven innings. Kellie White continued her unsailable campaign for freshman of the year with her second save of the year. Senior first baseman and somehow still underrated hitter Paxton Provost hit a home run. Catcher Bailey Lewis hit one too, her first of the season. The fielding was sound. Errors were minimal. The game was won 4-0.

The Rams avoided the series sweep with a win Saturday, but it won't be enough to knock the Aggies off-track. Utah State is 7-2 this season following a loss, with neither loss coming against a conference opponent. The slump-proof Aggies have 12 games to play, including a rematch against ranked BYU, to establish exactly how high this season will rise in the record books.

Success is already theirs, but history could be, too.

— logantjones@aggiemail.usu.edu



PHOTO BY Sydney Oliver

Senior Sarina Jaramillo is met by teammates at the plate following her home run over BYU. Jaramillo ranks in the conference's top ten batting averages for the season (.398).



Around Aggie Nation

USU Softball

Last Week

W, 1-0 – Fresno State
W, 7-4 – Fresno State
W, 6-2 – Colorado State
W, 4-0 – Colorado State
L, 3-0 – Colorado State

This Week

Wed., April 14 – at Weber State, 3 p.m.
Fri., April 21 – at New Mexico State, 4 p.m.
Sat., April 22 – at New Mexico State, 4 p.m.
Sun., April 23 – at New Mexico State, 12 p.m.

USU Women's Tennis

Last Week

L, 5-2 – Air Force
L, 4-2 – Utah
W, 4-0 – Idaho *Sunday

This Week

Sat., April 22, – Boise State, 10 a.m.

USU Men's Tennis (No. 42)

Last Week

L, 4-3 – New Mexico
W, 4-1 – Fresno State
W, 5-0 – Nevada

This Week

Sat., April 22 – at Boise State, 6 p.m.

USU Outdoor Track & Field

Last Week

NTS – Mt. SAC Relays
NTS – Mark Faldmo Invitational

This Week

Fri., April 21 – at Stanford, Calif., Cardinal Classic (Team)
Sat., April 22 – at Stanford, Calif., Cardinal Classic (Team)

USU Men's Golf

Next Week

Fri., April 21 – Mountain West Championships at Tucson, Ariz.
Sat., April 22 – Mountain West Championships at Tucson, Ariz.
Sun., April 23 – Mountain West Championships at Tucson, Ariz.

USU Baseball (Club) (No. 20)

Last Week

W, 8-2 – Weber State
W, 11-0 – Weber State
W, 15-5 – Weber State
L, 8-7 – at Colorado Mesa University
L, 9-4 – at Colorado Mesa University
L, 17-0 – at Colorado Mesa University

This Week

Tues., April 18 – LDS Business College, 5 p.m.
Tues., April 18 – at LDS Business College, 7 p.m.
Fri., April 21 – at Idaho State, TBA.
Sat., April 22 – at Idaho State, TBA.
Sat., April 22 – at Idaho State, TBA.

USU Women's Lacrosse (Club)

Last Week

W, 1-0 – Wyoming
W, 9-7 – Boise State
W, 21-1 – Colorado School of Mines

USU Men's Lacrosse (Club)

Next Week

Sat., April 22 – at Utah Valley University, 6 p.m.

“North Korea” FROM PAGE 3

trouble.” North Korea’s official name is the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. He added: “We will go to war if they choose.” A U.S. State Department official said later Friday the U.S. was aligning “all elements of national power” to get North Korea to abandon its nuclear and missile programs. The official, who wasn’t authorized to be quoted by name and demanded anonymity, lamented Pyongyang’s “far too common and far too dangerous” provocations, and said Washington would work with international partners to cut the North’s government off “from the rest of the world.”

The U.S. seeks nothing more than a “stable and economically prosperous Korean peninsula,” not military conflict, the official said. But the U.S. will respond to North Korea’s threats accordingly and won’t engage Pyongyang until it “chooses a more peaceful way forward.” Han said U.S. sanctions efforts are misguided and cited the opening ceremony of a sprawling new high-rise residential area in Pyongyang on Thursday as evidence that sanctions have failed to ruin the country’s economy. Leader Kim Jong Un presided over the ceremony before about 100,000 residents and a large contingent of foreign journalists who have been allowed in to cover the holiday. Han dismissed the suggestion Trump made last year during his presidential campaign that he was willing to meet Kim Jong Un, possibly over hamburgers. “I think that was nothing more than lip service during the campaign to make himself more popular,” Han said. “Now we are comparing Trump’s policy toward the DPRK with the former administration’s and we have concluded that it’s becoming more vicious and more aggressive.” Han said North Korea changed its military strategy two years ago, when the reports of “de-

capitation strike” training began to really get attention, to stress pre-emptive actions. “We’ve got a powerful nuclear deterrent already in our hands, and we certainly will not keep our arms crossed in the face of a U.S. pre-emptive strike,” he said. “Whatever comes from the U.S., we will cope with it. We are fully prepared to handle it.” How much such comments are bluster, or how realistic they are, is hard to gauge. Also on Friday, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said all sides must stop provoking and threatening and start taking a flexible approach to resuming dialogue. He said China is willing to support any such effort. “Once a war really happens, the result will be nothing but multiple-loss. No one can become a winner,” Wang said. “No matter who it is, if it wants to make war or trouble on the Korean Peninsula, it must take the historical responsibility and pay the due price.” South Korea’s Foreign Ministry said Han’s remarks on the North’s readiness to conduct a nuclear test and even go to war reveal the “true colors of North Korea’s government that is bellicose and a breaker of regulations.” The ministry issued a statement saying North Korea will face strong punishment it will find hard to withstand if it makes a significant provocation, such as another nuclear test or an ICBM launch.

Military experts generally agree a shooting war with North Korea would likely be far more costly than something along the lines of the recent targeted strike Trump ordered against a Syrian air base believed to be linked to a chemical weapons attack by the regime of Bashar Assad. That attack alarmed the North and was condemned as “unpardonable” by Pyongyang, which counts Syria as an ally. Even without nuclear weapons, the North could cause severe damage with its conventional artillery batteries aimed at the South Korean capital of Seoul.

“One Act” FROM PAGE 4

JOEY
Lignocellulose. (whispers) Lignocellulose.
KEITH
Digest! (whispers) Digest.
JOEY
Lignocellulose. (whispers) Lignocellulose.
KEITH
Come on man, take a verse!
JOEY
(much more into it now) Oh,
Have you ever noticed, how many living things
Like to snack on tiny bugs with tiny shells and wings?
Birds and rats and bats, other mammals too,
From time to time enjoy themselves an amazing cockroach stew.
On behalf of other creatures who just don’t got the gumption,
The good cockroach provides herself for immediate consumption!
Immediate! (whispers) Immediate.
KEITH
Consumption! (whispers) Consumption.
JOEY
Immediate! (whispers) Immediate.
KEITH
Consumption! (whispers) Consumption.
BOTH
(speaking to audience)
So next time you see a cockroach, just remember these words . . .

KEITH
Converting nitrogen!
JOEY
Digest lignocellulose!
BOTH
Imm-e-di-ate con-sump-tion! (end)
JOEY
Heck, I guess they ain’t that bad after all.
KEITH
Just goes to show ya that every creature on earth does its part to recycle, even the grossest ones. Sheesh, especially the grossest ones. It only makes sense that we do, too. Ya know. Cause we’re gross.
JOEY
Yeah.
(looks down at cockroach, tentatively picks it up and sets it free behind the building. He and Keith keep walking)
Say, how about cockroaches as a hockey mascot?
KEITH
Naw man, that’s stupid. How about spiders?
JOEY
EWGH! I hate spiders. Spiders can die.
KEITH
Actually, spiders incorporate SO MUCH to our daily lives . . .
JOEY
(looks up at the sky and screams in exasperation)
BLACKOUT.

“Lies” FROM PAGE 4

male counterparts and it pays off in a huge way as each of these actresses deliver performances that we haven’t seen them give in a long time. As Madeline, Witherspoon is clearly having a ball and we get to see her in way that we rarely ever get to see her. In fact, I don’t think we’ve seen her play a character like this since 1999’s “Election” and it makes me wish she’d take on more roles like this. In recent memory it was her work in “Wild” that has stood out as her best work but in my opinion, this is the role that reminds us how much talent she has. With Jane, Woodley also reminds us that hey, this girl can act! When you look at her work in the “Divergent” series, it’s easy to not be all that impressed by her but when you take in her work in films such as “The Descendants,” “The fault in our stars” and now this, we really get to see her shine. With Celeste, Kidman delivers what I feel to be her most vulnerable performance in years and I think come next year’s Emmy awards, she’ll definitely be taking home a statue as she is easily the strongest performer throughout the series. I’ve been a fan of Dern for years, and in my opinion she’s welcome to be in every single movie that will ever be made until the day she dies. Her performance in this show is nothing short but spectacular. Her character, Renata, is painted as the “villain,” the one who doesn’t give Jane the chance the other women give her and is of-

ten the stirrer of conflict.In spite of that, Dern still manages to bring a sense of sympathy to the role that even when we’re supposed to be hating her, we’re also feeling sorry for her and find ourselves stepping into her corner. Lastly, not to leave her out, I’ll be honest and say I’ve never been a fan of Zoe Kravitz’s work. She’s never really given a performance that made me take her seriously as an actress. Luckily, she managed to get me to change my mind with this role as I finally felt she was able to ... well ... act. It can’t be easy to share a screen with the other women involved in this project, but Kravitz manages to hold her own and doesn’t get lost in the shuffle. This is a show that is an example of what kind of magic can happen when the acting, writing and directing all come together and are all on the same page. I’d go into more detail but I’ve already gone on too long. So I’ll simply end by saying “Big Little Lies” is a show you need to start watching if you haven’t already. The bottom line: With a cast this spectacular and a mystery just dark enough to hold your attention until the very end, “Big Little Lies” is one of the best shows you’ll watch all year and one that will get you thinking about issues you’ve probably never bothered to think about. **“Big Little Lies” is now available in its entirety on HBO On Demand or HBO Go.

— keithariaz1@gmail.com
@ariaz_keith



PHOTO BY AP Photo Wong Maye-E
In this July 27, 2013, file photo, North Korean soldiers turn and look towards leader Kim Jong Un as they carry packs marked with the nuclear symbol at a parade in Pyongyang, North Korea. North Korea's vice foreign minister Han Song Ryol said in an interview with the Associated Press on Friday, April 14, 2017: "We've got a powerful nuclear deterrent already in our hands, and we certainly will not keep our arms crossed in the face of a U.S. pre-emptive strike."

SOFTBALL

VS.

NEW MEXICO

FRIDAY 4PM

SATURDAY 4PM


SUNDAY 12PM

WOMEN'S TENNIS

VS.

BOISE STATE

SATURDAY 10AM



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The “Flying Fickle Finger of Fate Award” goes to.....

JOHN KUSHMA

– John Kushma is a communication consultant and lives in Logan, Utah.

The American People!

In the late 60’s early 70’s ‘Rowan and Martin’s Laugh-In’ was a top rated comedy show and one of the first to incorporate politically incorrect humor. Weekly, they presented the “Flying Fickle Finger of Fate Award” for the most ridiculous news story of the week often poking fun at politics, politicians, the media, but mostly at the dumb things people do.

A classic definition of the term ‘fickle finger of fate’ is, the unseen and unforeseeable force that controls all living things. ‘Fickle’ means, changing frequently, especially regarding one’s loyalties, interests, or affection.

Six months ago, we all condemned Donald Trump for what he said about liking to grab women by their private parts. We were shocked and aghast by his lecherous comments and many of us figured it would cost him the presidency. Notwithstanding his already questionable and megalomaniac personality, it seemed that singular comment was the last straw.

And now, just a few months into his presidency, and his approval ratings at an all time low, many are wondering but few of us are asking about the “wall”, the jobs, healthcare, the infrastructure, racial unrest, ISIS ...all the things he promised and on which he ran his campaign. These are the hard things the president, any president, must do. The real work, the daily grind. The unsexy, political treadmill that keeps the country running.

But fait intervened for Donald Trump in the form of Bashar al-Assad, President of Syria, a leader with his own baggage that makes President Trump’s White House look like Mr. Roger’s Neighborhood.

By “stepping up to the plate” and bombing the Shayrat Air Base near Homs, Syria, all seems to be forgiven of Donald Trump by much of America. He is being lavished with both media and bipartisan praise. His approval ratings are up!

I saw a woman the other day wearing a T-shirt that said, “Go Donald! You Can Grab My P_ _

_Y Anytime!”

Now, I’m sure this brief Trumpmania will yield to our greater sensibilities, but what does this say about us, We the People, who supposedly are charged with the thoughtful choosing of our leaders who run our country? What next shiny object will distract us from reason?

Trump, still embroiled in controversy, is now, at least for the moment, our new national super hero. Macho man.

The reality of the token air strike on Syria is that it did little to alleviate the overall problem or even to destroy the operations of the Shayrat Air Base which is still up and running as Assad flips the U.S. the bird and continues to bomb and slaughter his own folks. And now we’ve implicated Russia, further stirring up that hornets nest!

So, what was accomplished? A statement by the U.S. that we won’t tolerate any crap from Assad? I don’t think he heard us. In fact, I think he is defying us. And now maybe the Russians are too. And that, Mr. Trump, is “big time” serious.

The follow-up is now the most important next step. There must be a follow-up. Assad is flying in America’s face, taunting us. I hope there was more of a strategy to Trump’s plan than fire a few million dollar Tomahawk missiles and hope that does the trick. I’m sure, and I’m hoping, the generals have looked at this from the long view and have advised the President accordingly. Because if they haven’t all we have here is a reality show without an ending.

Our allies like the UK, France, Germany, etc. have all approved of the U.S. bombing, and conversely, expectedly, Russia, North Korea, Iran, etc. have condemned it.

The only winner, for the moment which is passing quickly, seems to be President Trump. That same flip-flopping, p_ _ _y-grabbing, megalomaniac of just a few months ago is now our brave and decisive American President. I’m afraid the 50 Tomahawks were merely Trump’s rhetoric personified, and now he’s apparently won our respect and admiration.

It all echoes W’s disastrous victory lap “Mission Accomplished” rhetoric regarding Iraq.

We’re hearing things now like, “There’s a new

sheriff in town” ..the media loves that one, and “..a decisive president.” The story is that Trump saw the media pictures of the injured and dying children and, in his own words, “... the little, tiny babies ...” and that convinced him to bomb the air base. And of course this is all about the sarin gas Assad has been using. I guess the barrel bombs were okay.

We all saw the pictures. They are horrible. We’ve been seeing similar footage for years, all over the world. Kids, people, starving, dying, being blown to bits and victimized by their own leaders. It’s happening as you’re reading this, it will be happening tomorrow and beyond. A few PR Tomahawks just tend to acerbate and escalate the problem.

But we are a fickle people. We love our cowboy heros no matter how short-lived or ineffective. We live for the moment, for the headlines. We love our myths.

I appreciated Trump’s action as much as anyone, and understood the probability of it. He had to do it, but he was politically lucky to have the circumstance and opportunity. But I’m sensing America’s Vietnam debacle, and Iraq, and hoping for a more politically reasonable, humanitarian solution.

Force, is usually necessary at some point. Maybe within our humanity and our American political minds there was no other way of thinking this one through. But I can’t help from thinking we, he, could have done something smarter and more effective than rattling sabers at the people who invented them. And I don’t mead trying to push it through congress and waiting for a wrong decision, or no decision. I mean something like taking out Assad 007 style. Osama bin Laden style. We’re good at that ..WE invented that.

It’s ironic that in our militaristic technological world of rockets, bombs and nukes the U.S. seems always ready and anxious to use these against other countries who lose sway with us.

Granted, Hitler used the V-1 and V-2 rockets against Great Britain, but it was the U.S. that used the first atomic bomb against Japan.

Which decisively put an end to that war ...in a flash.



Letters to the editor

1

Letters should be limited to 400 words. All letters may be shortened, or rejected for reasons of good taste, redundancy or volume of similar letters.

2

Letters must be topic-oriented. They may not be directed toward any individuals. Any letter directed to a specific individual may be edited or not printed.

3

No anonymous letters will be published. Writers must sign all letters and include a phone number or email address, as well as a student identification number (none of which is published).

4

Letters representing groups — or more than one individual — must have a singular representative clearly stated, with all necessary identification information.

5

Writers must wait 21 days before submitting successive letters -- no exceptions.

6

The Statesman editors reserve the right to not print every letter to the editor. But all letters will be published online.

7

Letters can be hand-delivered or mailed to The Statesman the TSC, Room 118, or can be emailed to statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu, or click www.utahstatesman.com.

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